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Rural District of North Westmorland

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1966

Stricklandgate House, P.O. Box 18, Kendal

Telephone Number: Kendal 1296

KENDAL

TITUS WILSON & SON, LTD.

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NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area of the Rural District in acres	288,688
Population at 1961 Census	15,354
Population (Registrar-General's mid year estimate)	15,000
Inhabited houses	5,334
Rateable Value	£356,968
Product of a Penny Rate	£1,376
Total rate in the Pound levied	10/2d.
of which the County Rate was	9/1d.

The Rural District of North Westmorland lies between the central mountainous mass of the Lake District and the escarpment of the Pennine Chain, and possesses a wide variety of scenery. The main geographical feature of the District is the Eden Valley, a fertile agricultural strip which was once the route of a Roman highway and later a strong line of defence against the Border raiders. The River Eden rises in lonely Mallerstang, flows past the market town of Kirkby Stephen to the foothills of the Pennine Range, and thence north-westwards through the ancient Borough of Appleby to its junction with the River Eamont, where it leaves the District.

The country to the north-east rises abruptly to some 2,500 feet, and on the far side the northernmost boundary lies in the desolate area of the Upper Tees Valley. To the south-west of the Eden Valley lies the central upland plateau which extends from Shap to Kirkby Stephen broken only by a few charming wooded valleys and occasional villages. South of this plateau the River Lune flows through pleasant pastoral Ravenstonedale into the austere gorge below Tebay, and the southern boundary of the District is the 2,000 feet high rampart of the great watershed of Westmorland. In the south-west the great barren fells of the Lake District rise to over 3,000 feet above sea level, and in the valleys lie the beautiful lakes of Ullswater and Haweswater. These geographical features determine the natural lines of communication and therefore influence the spread of infectious diseases.

The geology of North Westmorland is also very varied. The escarpment of the Pennine Chain in the north and the central upland mass are formed of lower carboniferous limestone, and the Eden Valley lies between along the lines of the Pennine Fault. The Cross Fell inlier in the Dufton and Hilton areas is a unique formation containing in miniature most of the Lake District rocks, Skiddaw slates, Borrowdale volcanic rocks, Coniston limestone, the Ashgillian series, and

Silurian strata above which follows the dominating carboniferous series of the escarpment.

The Vale of Eden is composed mainly of permian sandstone, with St. Bees sandstone in the south, with small beds of red shales, gypsum and magnesium limestone. Above and below the Penrith sandstone lie Brockrams and Breccias, and further west some red conglomerate basement beds are found in the Pooley Bridge area. To the south-west the Borrowdale Volcanic series occur, with ashes and breccias often well bedded and cleaved, and the Silurian strata commence south of Shap. A further interesting feature is the outcrop of the Shap granite intrusion through the Borrowdale series near their junction with the thin Coniston limestone beds. Glacial drift remains at several places and the valley bottoms contain alluvial deposits. These geological characteristics are of great significance in the supervision of water supplies, sewerage and occupational diseases as well as affecting the economics of the District.

The climate is equable in the valleys and invigorating on the fellsides and uplands. The air is generally very clear and there is little mist or fog. Temperature gradient inversions are occasional in the mornings. The average rainfall is 75 inches a year in the Haweswater area but decreases sharply towards the eastern parts of the District: in the upper parts of the Eden Valley it is about 35 inches per year. Snow may be expected for one or two weeks in the late winter.

The District is primarily agricultural in character and many of the small local industries are ancillary to agriculture. There are also the following industries which provide much local employment and bring a measure of prosperity to the villages: Stone quarries and mines for gypsum and barytes, factories for plaster and cement, and railway works.

In addition to these local industries the District receives seasonal tourist business along the main highways, and in the Lake District areas, particularly around Pooley Bridge. The variety of these opportunities for local employment helps to some extent to check the continuing drift from the countryside. Economic security and local prosperity are most important factors in the maintenance of the public health.

COMMITTEES.

The Minister of Health requires me to include a list of your Council's committees which are concerned with matters of public health.

The Public Health Committee deals with most of the principal matters, but there are other aspects of public health importance which are dealt with by the Housing and Licensing Committee.

STAFF.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
Madge, F. T.	M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland
Calvert, D.	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.	Public Health Inspector	Part	Engineer and Surveyor
Hart, G.	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector	Part	Surveyor
Kelly, R. M.	M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector	Whole	—
Masterton, J. R.	M.A.P.H.I.	Additional Public Health Inspector to 6th November, 1966	Part	Public Health Inspector, Appleby Borough Council
Cradock, N.	—	Clerk and Technical Assistant	Whole	—
Allinson, J. H.	—	Clerk	Whole	—
Holland, E.	—	Clerk	Part	—
Machell, B. M.	—	Clerk to Medical Officer of Health	Part	Clerk to M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland

Staff Changes.

Mr. Masterton left on 6th November, 1966, and the vacancy had not been filled by the year end.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following extracts are made from information supplied by the Registrar-General with figures for last year for comparison.

Area of the District in acres 288,688

	1965	1966
Estimated civilian population (mid year) ..	15,090	15,000
Live Births. Legitimate— males	127	110
females	120	110
Illegitimate— males	5	7
females	7	4
Total	259	231
Crude Rate per 1,000 population	17.2	15.4
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	18.9	16.9
Birth Rate for England and Wales	18.1	17.7
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 live births.	46.3	47.6
Still Births. Legitimate— males	3	1
females	1	1
Illegitimate— males	—	—
females	—	—
Total	4	2
Total (live and still) births ..	263	233
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	15.2	8.6
Rate for England and Wales ..	15.7	15.4
Deaths. males	103	118
females	100	89
Total	203	207
Crude Rate per 1,000 population ..	13.5	13.8
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	12.9	13.0
Rate for England and Wales ..	11.5	11.7

	1965	1966
Infantile Deaths (under 1 year)		
Total deaths under 1 year.. ..	4	5
Rate per 1,000 live births	15.4	21.6
Rate for England and Wales	19.0	19.0
Legitimate	3	4
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	12.1	18.2
Illegitimate	1	1
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83.3	90.9
Neonatal Deaths (under 4 weeks)		
Total neonatal deaths	3	3
Rate per 1,000 live births	11.7	13
Rate for England and Wales	13.0	12.9
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)		
Total early neonatal deaths	2	3
Rate per 1,000 live births	7.7	13
Rate for England and Wales	11.3	11.1
Perinatal Mortality		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week.. .. .	6	5
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	22.8	21.5
Rate for England and Wales	26.9	26.3
Maternal Mortality		
Total Deaths	1	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	3.8	—
Rate for England and Wales	0.25	0.26

Deaths from certain causes:—	1965.	1966.
Cancer	32	45
Measles	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil

The main causes of death were:—		
Heart Disease .. .. .	...	68
Cancer .. .. .	...	45
Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	...	28

COMMENTARY ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

Population Movements.

The population of the Rural District numbered 15,354 at the 1961 Census, compared with 16,959 in 1951 and 18,022 in 1931. Thus during the last ten years, between 1951 and 1961, we lost a net figure of 1,605 people or 9.5% in a single decade.

But the real loss was much more serious than that: 1,605 was only the net loss. Because in those same ten years we had 2,566 births and only 1,988 deaths, which should have given us a natural increase of 578 persons. The answer, of course, is that they were more than cancelled out by emigration.

A promising expansion is in progress at the gypsum quarries and plasterworks at Kirkby Thore. The raw material will be processed there into plasterboards and other building trade supplies. It is hoped that there may be employment for an additional 80 to 100 people when the new extension is completed.

Then the construction of the M6 Motorway will bring a flood of new activity across our District. The proposed Service Area and interchange roads may do something to revitalize the local economy, and even if passers-by cannot get off the Motorway very easily, at least they will see the attractive charm and opportunities of North Westmorland. We shall be prominently on display all along the shop window of the Motorway.

Birth Rate.

Your birth rate used to be well above that for England and Wales, but in recent years it has been about the national level.

Death Rate.

Your death rates usually fluctuate around the national average level. The differences are not significant.

Perinatal Mortality.

There is often not much difference between the cause of a baby dying in the first week of its life and the cause of a stillbirth. Sometimes it is a matter of chance whether such a baby dies before delivery or after. So we now add the number of stillbirths to the number of

babies dying in their first week, and we call it the perinatal mortality: in popular language, the deaths which happen around the time of birth.

Anyway, the perinatal mortality statistics include most of the fatalities which are caused by abnormalities of the baby as it develops in the womb. Some of those may be due to the mother catching infections during a critical phase in her pregnancy: or more rarely to drugs: or more commonly to some genetic factor. The statistics include the fatalities which are caused by toxæmias of pregnancy and accidents within the womb. The mechanical stresses and strains of delivery, the attention given to the new-born child, the blood peculiarities, and even the risks of accident and infection in the first week of life, are all included factors. So the perinatal mortality rate is perhaps better regarded as a measure of obstetric achievement. What happens to a live baby in the first week depends to a great extent on what has happened to it before delivery.

There are some signs of hope that science may be able to prevent certain types of developmental abnormalities, and it is clear that the increased availability of obstetrical specialists will help to reduce the number of neonatal deaths. An advisory obstetric committee has been set up in Westmorland to co-ordinate the functions of the three divisions of the health service involved in midwifery, and to investigate the causes of still-births and infant deaths.

Mountain Accidents.

Accidents on our mountains are a special hazard in the western parts of our area within the Lake District, and on the wild uplands of the Pennines. A regular toll of death and suffering happens every year. Most of these accidents are preventable, and they mostly affect our visitors.

The inexperienced, the unlucky, and the foolhardy, fall out of crags while rock-climbing, lose themselves in the dark and the mist and the snow. The physically unfit die of exhaustion, exposure and heart attacks.

Someone has to turn out to look for them, and rescue them, and bury them. A magnificent local organization of search and rescue teams has been built up in the District to meet these demands.

A campaign for the prevention of mountain accidents has been organized not only in your District, but also back into the big towns from which our visitors come, and to a wider audience on the radio and television. We hope it may help.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE.

DISEASE.	Total	Ages										Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-			45-	65-
Measles	193	2	8	17	17	17	93	32	5	1	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	195	2	8	17	17	17	95	32	5	1	1	—	—	—

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The general incidence of illness can be assessed by the weekly number of new claims for sickness benefit at our local National Insurance offices. A logarithmic graph of those figures shows a regular seasonal pattern over the years, and any variations are usually worth investigating. The general level is some measure of local community health.

It is pleasing to record that the notification of infectious disease has much improved in recent years, and I am very grateful to my colleagues in general practice for their prompt help in this respect. I look upon the control of notifiable diseases as one of the most important duties of our department.

Measles was the main feature of the year with a couple of hundred cases, in one epidemic which lasted from May to August: not a bad time of year to have it, because there are less complications than in winter-time. This 1966 epidemic was rather unusual, in that it affected the full length of the Eden Valley from Penrith to Kirkby Stephen all at one time. The previous pattern has always been for it to spread gradually along the line of communication. Luckily it was fairly mild, and there were no deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS TABLE.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respira- tory		Non-res- piratory		Respira- tory		Non-res- piratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ..	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
45 ..	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ..	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	3	—	I	—	—	—	—	—

One of the respiratory cases notified was a transfer from another area.

The number of tuberculosis patients on the register at the year end were:—

		1965.	1966.
Respiratory	...	21	23
Non-Respiratory	...	4	5
		—	—
		25	28
		—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis is still an important communicable disease of our time. Its prevention is primarily dependent upon social and economic factors in the general community, and secondarily upon the management of the established case. Your Council's functions are three-fold; to investigate the source of infection, to prevent the spread of infection, and to remove conditions favourable to infection.

One of the most effective ways of finding the sources of infection is mass radiography. The mobile units of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board visit our area periodically, and I should like to see many more of our local population take advantage of this valuable service. It not only detects pulmonary tuberculosis at the more favourable time for a cure, but it can also provide an early warning against many other chest conditions, lung cancer, and certain heart diseases.

People who have been X-rayed are notified by post if the results are satisfactory. But if any abnormalities are found the patient's own family doctor is informed, so that he can best explain the findings and arrange any treatment that may be needed.

Such discoveries more than justify the visits of the Mass Radiography Units to our area at regular intervals. I think that we should do all we can to make really excellent arrangements for their reception, and encourage our local people to turn up in full force for their chest X-rays.

Preventing the spread of infection is helped by prompt treatment and supervision. Waiting time is nowadays very short for admission to hospital, and modern drugs achieve most promising results for returning the patient to a useful working life.

The Hospital Services.

Your District lies in the area of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board, and the general hospitals at Carlisle have traditionally served the acute medical and surgical needs of our people, and it seems likely that they will continue to do so.

But some of the villages on the southern fringes of your District are often more conveniently served by the hospitals in Kendal, which are in the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board. There are signs of change down there.

The Government's national policy to develop what are to be called District Hospitals seems likely to mean that the southern end of our

area will have to rely more and more on Carlisle and Lancaster, and less on Kendal, as the Hospital Plan comes into effect in the next ten years.

Some people think that Westmorland risks being left rather ill-served if the hospital services concentrate themselves on Lancaster and Carlisle. There is a lot of territory in between, and transport communications are not very easy for out-patients and visitors to get to those hospitals and home again.

Hospital and Ambulance Arrangements for Infectious Diseases.

Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board at Carlisle.

Smallpox cases will be taken to Langley Park Hospital, Durham City, in ambulances provided by Durham County Council.

Ambulance transport for other cases of infectious disease is provided by the Westmorland County Council.

HOUSING.

Under the Housing Acts your Council has a duty to consider the general housing conditions in your District, to ascertain whether any are unfit for human habitation, and to assess the need for further houses. You have powers to deal with unfit houses, powers to provide new houses for all classes, and various powers and duties in the management of your Council's housing estates. Good housing conditions are an integral part of public health.

Present Housing Position.

There were 5,334 inhabited houses on your Rate Books at the end of the year. With an estimated population of 15,000, the average number of persons per house is 2.8 which is not a high figure. Four houses are legally overcrowded within the strict definition of the Housing Act which assumes that living-rooms are used also for sleeping purposes and the sexes can be segregated irrespective of age, health and family relationships. At the time of the 1961 Census there were 4,833 private households living in 4,826 structurally separate dwellings.

A lot of houses in the Rural District are occupied by only one or two persons. The 1961 Census revealed that 616 houses contained only one occupier, and that another 1,329 houses had only two people living in them.

General Progress of Slum Clearance.

Westmorland as a whole has made very encouraging progress in post-war slum clearance despite all the difficulties of the times. Since the campaign was resumed in 1948 well over 1,250 houses in the County have been dealt with by formal action under the Housing Acts. Most of these will eventually be demolished or converted to trade use, but some of them have been reprieved by their owners undertaking to spend considerable money for comprehensive reconditioning up to modern standards.

In addition to those formal actions there have been a very creditable number of informal schemes for the renovation of substandard houses, either with the aid of improvement grants or entirely by private enterprise. The aim is to save a house wherever possible, but if it cannot be brought up to an acceptable standard of safety, decency and amenity the sooner it is swept away the better.

Slum Clearance Programmes.

In your own District good progress continued with slum clearance and was limited to dealing with any Class 5 houses becoming vacant. Every endeavour was made to persuade owners to recondition them if there seemed any possibility of retaining them as dwellings.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, required your Council to declare their proposals for dealing with sub-standard houses. You resolved to deal with the estimated 349 houses within the next fifteen years. The Minister of Housing and Local Government approved that scheme and it is now on deposit for public inspection. You may have to speed up a bit, but I hope that the grants now available will save an increasing proportion of old houses before your fifteen-year programme expires in 1970.

Closing Orders.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 18.

Eight closing orders were made during the year, and at 31st December there were altogether 3 houses subject to operative closing orders still occupied.

Undertakings not to use for Human Habitation.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 16.

Four such undertakings were accepted during the year, and at 31st December there were no houses in this category still occupied.

Undertakings to Perform Works.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 16.

No such undertakings were accepted during the year.

Three such undertakings were outstanding on the Register of Local Land Charges.

Demolition Orders.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 16.

No demolition orders were made during the year.

One house subject to an operative demolition order was actually pulled down during the year, leaving 11 demolition orders outstanding on the Register of Local Land Charges at the year end. None of these houses were still occupied.

Clearance Areas.

Housing Act, 1957. Section 44.

There are no outstanding clearance areas.

Improvement Grants.

15 discretionary grants and 61 standard grants were approved during the year. 490 houses have been renovated and converted under grants made by your Council. A very worthwhile effort.

House Building Progress.

Since 1948 your Council have built 318 houses, and another 268 houses have been put up by private enterprise.

Your Council completed 8 houses during the year. Private enterprise completed 33 in the same period. Conversion in existing houses provided 4 additional units.

At the year end no houses were under construction by your Council but there were 27 by private enterprise. Those are the statistics published in the Housing Return of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Some Local Details : Council Houses.

Long Marton.

The four single-bedroomed bungalows which were in course of erection at the end of 1965 were completed and occupied early in 1966.

Kirkby Thore.

There was a long delay in commencing work on the erection of 12 houses and 4 single-bedroomed bungalows on the Dunfell View Estate, and only preparatory work in the form of roads, sewers and water mains had been carried out at the end of the year.

A site at Town Head, Kirkby Thore, known as Sanderson's Croft, was acquired and a scheme for the erection of 70 houses received Ministry approval, and a contract for the erection of the houses and all associated site works was let. Site works were in progress at the end of the year. These houses are required for the accommodation of workers employed at the enlarged British Gypsum Mill at Kirkby Thore and are designed to meet Parker Morris requirements. The layout provides traffic-free areas, children's play areas, etc., and includes a garage for each house.

Brough.

In view of the urgency of the Kirkby Thore housing scheme, and the general financial situation, the Brough scheme along with other village schemes had to be retarded, and whilst some further

preparatory work was continued no contract for the erection of the houses was entered into. It is intended to proceed with the erection of up to 30 houses and a number of single-bedroomed bungalows on the Castle View Estate as soon as possible.

Orton.

Layout for the site near Orton Hall and type plans of the houses to be erected received planning consent during the year.

Kirkby Stephen.

The Council have expressed an intention to complete the West Garth Housing Estate by erecting approximately 16 houses and possibly a further 4 single-bedroomed bungalows, but no active steps had been taken by the end of the year.

Estimated Requirements for New Houses.

During 1962 your Council obtained an estimate of the number of new houses needed. Notices were published in the press and in the parishes, inviting applications for housing accommodation.

Ninety applications were received, and it became possible to see where the demands arose. Your Council have the difficult task of distinguishing the needs from the demands, and also to assess the effects of our rapidly continuing depopulation. We shall have to be a bit cautious.

The Special Needs for Old People.

When we come to press the Regional Hospital Boards to establish a goodly number of geriatric beds in accessible places to meet the needs of our North Westmorland patients, we must remind ourselves of our corresponding responsibility to provide sufficient and suitable houses for our own folk to go home to when they come out of hospital. They have a right to come back into the community. The hospital should have a two-way door.

I believe that there is justice in this argument. As a doctor, I endorse the idea that a hospital should be a place to go to for treatment, to be made well again, not simply a dumping ground for old folk who can no longer cope with the day-to-day difficulties of struggling along in substandard or unsuitable houses, particularly in the more rural areas.

Both your Council and various charitable organizations have done a lot of good work in providing special houses for the elderly, but a

lot more needs doing to keep pace with the increasing proportion of old people in the community.

I suggest that purpose-designed bungalows and ground floor flats are still much needed, with low fittings, handrails, lever door-handles, easy gradient steps, and suchlike special aids for the elderly.

Although it is desirable to find sites in the level and more accessible parts of our District, I believe that the internal design of the home is even more important. That is where the elderly citizens will spend most of their time. That is where we have the duty of helping them to make the best of life, and to overcome the increasing physical limitations of growing old.

I believe, furthermore, that the time has come to provide groups of semi-dependency type houses for old people, with a resident welfare warden available in case of need. The degree of provision of communal facilities for laundries or guest-rooms would be a matter of detail for decision in design. I am more concerned with the principle. It would relieve the burden on geriatric hospital beds, and upon the Welfare Hostels, besides conferring the gesture of at least semi-independence to the elderly folk in our villages. It would recognize their dignity.

Tenants Selection.

When Council houses become available handbills are posted on village notice boards, inviting applicants and stating whether the house is reserved for agricultural workers. All applicants are supplied with a form for submitting details of their personal circumstances, domestic and financial, to your Council. The applications are considered by your Housing Committee together with any other information which can be supplied by members of your Council for that area. There is no anonymity and your Housing Committee attach importance to the personal knowledge of your Councillors in making their selection. This system has its advantages as well as its disadvantages.

Housing Management.

Your Council now own 478 occupied houses, situated in widely dispersed sites in your extensive District. The housing management is largely in the hands of the Public Health Inspectorate, and every effort is made to inspect the houses at regular intervals to see that the property is kept in good condition.

165 Council houses were built before the 1939-45 war, and many are over 30 years old. The increase in numbers and age of these houses calls for more frequent attention and entails higher maintenance costs.

The rents of your Council houses vary from 17/0d. to 26/6d., exclusive of rates, and the rateable values are between £30 and £50.

Housing Nuisances.

During the year there were 12 Informal Notices served under the Public Health Act and no Statutory Notice was served.

Certificates of Disrepair.

No certificates were issued during the year.

Dangerous Buildings.

No formal action was necessary during the year, but informal action was taken in 6 cases.

Caravans.

1961 saw the real commencement of operating the excellent legislation for controlling caravan sites. We were able to work in harmonious and efficient co-operation with both Westmorland County Planning Authority and the Lake District Planning Board for their respective areas within your Rural District. The result of that amicable combination of powers and the adoption of a very high standard of requirements for the siting, equipping, and management of caravan sites.

By the end of the year 37 caravan-site licences were in force. They covered a maximum total number of 303 caravans permitted on the sites, usually with seasonal restriction to between 1st March and 31st October in each year. There were, however, included 12 licences for 15 caravans for permanent habitation, a practice which we discourage unless there are very special reasons for such a substandard choice or necessity.

We still feel the lack of sufficient overnight stopping-sites for touring caravans. With our District on the fringe of the National Park, and lying on the main traffic routes which our visitors use, we have to suffer a lot of mess and risk of disease from caravanners who stop overnight on our highway laybys. These places get very fouled for most of the summer.

Your Council and the Lake District Planning Board and the Westmorland County Planning Authority all are discussing the possibility of encouraging the establishment of proper overnight halt sites for caravans near the main highways. Various sites have been examined, but so far the idea has not appealed to any potential operators. Overnight stopping-sites are not a commercial proposition, unless a more

regular income can be gained from long-stay caravans on the same site. Nobody seems to love the overnight caravanner, so he is forced to go making the mess he does; and we have to live with it.

Tented Camping.

At the year end there were no licences in force under the Public Health Act. It now excludes caravans and so mainly applies to tented camp sites.

Unlicensed camping sites are limited to occasional use and are mainly on the Ullswater Shore or along the banks of the River Eden during the fishing season. These casual campers cause little nuisance by their improvised sanitary arrangements and refuse disposal, but they take water from polluted becks at their own risk.

Appleby New Fair.

A much more colourful invasion of caravans occurs each June, at what is known as Appleby New Fair, or Appleby Horse Fair, when hundreds of gypsies, general dealers, and horse traders, come to the town. It was estimated that about 2,000 people attended this year's meeting.

This ancient customary fair is supposed to be restricted to two days around the second Wednesday in June, but in practice it extends a lot longer, maybe to a week or ten days. Although horse trading still goes on, most of the caravans are nowadays luxury models, towed by cars and trucks.

The 1966 Fair marked a turning point by providing a better welcome for our visitors. In previous years there had been a lot of serious public health risks, with the caravans and tents parked along the roadside verges outside the town, and the consequent misuse of fields and hedgerows for insanitary human excretion and rubbish dumping. The caravan people did not like it any more than we did. So there was an historic get-together to solve the problems.

Well in advance of the start of the 1966 Fair a committee of the gypsies and horse traders, very ably led by Mr. Sylvester Boswell, met representatives of Appleby Borough Council, North Westmorland Rural District Council, and Westmorland County Council, to work out better arrangements for latrines, water supplies, rubbish disposal, and parkings, and the real crunch of who should pay for what.

The first good step was that the traditional Fair Hill was made fully available for parking the caravans and cars, and was adapted

to recognize the 20th-century fact that motor vehicles need better access roads across the site than the old horse-drawn vans. Westmorland County Council built a firmly surfaced ring road across the grass, and provided a standby towing service.

Appleby Borough Council and North Westmorland Rural District Council both did excellent work to improve the sanitary conditions around this part of their mutual border. A large mobile latrine vehicle was hired and was drained to a newly constructed septic tank nearby: another temporary field latrine was erected at the other end of the site: and many caravans were fitted with their own toilets.

Eden Water Board installed temporary standpipes with safe water for all domestic uses, and for watering the horses. And the visitors themselves organized a very efficient daily collection of all rubbish and garbage on the site, and its safe disposal by a private contractor. And they collected the gate money for parking their caravans on Fair Hill.

The greatest achievement was that these things worked out so well in practice. For the first time in half a century, the Appleby Fair was back again on the traditional Fair Hill and the police had every co-operation in keeping the roadside verges clear. Sanitation was under control by mutual consent, and the health of both visitors and residents was much better safeguarded.

Of course there was a bit of horseplay as well as horse dealing: and plenty of scope for improving things for future years. But on the whole I was really delighted to see 20th-century hygiene introduced into the mediaeval fun.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The public water supplies are administered by the Eden Water Board, on which your Council has representation. I record my appreciation of the help and liaison maintained by the officers of the Board.

Your Council continue to have a responsibility to check that the quality of the public water supplies is maintained safely for preserving the public health. Periodical tests are made on samples of water from consumers' taps, and some of the results are set out in Appendix A to this Report.

Most of these public water supplies are treated by chemical sterilization. No fluoride is added, and the natural fluorine and radioactivity levels are low.

The Eden Water Board appear to have continued with the schemes prepared by the R.D. Council for improvement of the public water supplies in the parishes in the eastern part of the district. A new trunk main has been laid from the Swindale filter house via Orton to Wander Bank, Crosby Garrett, where a large capacity reservoir is in course of construction, and branch mains have been extended from this point to form up with the existing regional main system. There has been a considerable improvement of the supplies to Nateby, Wharton, Crosby Garrett, Soulby, Warcop, Ormside, and other parishes. A new supply has been carried from the trunk main to serve Newbiggin-on-Lune and Ravenstonedale, and work is now proceeding with the laying of a new main to Brough to link up that village with the regional supply.

North Westmorland is fairly well watered. About 89% of the houses are now connected to some water main. The remaining 11% have to rely on individual private systems from wells, springs, becks, and stored rainwater, which may not always yield as much water as the users would like.

The quality of the private water supplies to several hundred houses in North Westmorland is quite another problem. We still retain an official concern with them, because they have not been transferred to the responsibility of the Water Board. I suspect that many of these private supplies are unsatisfactory from time to time, particularly when wet weather affects surface catchments and shallow wells. They are also vulnerable to foul drainage from new building developments uphill when private rights do not afford them full protection.

I can do little more than warn the users that they drink the water at their own risk, that they should have it tested for safety at suitable

intervals under their own private arrangements, and that they should boil the water if they are still in doubt.

We shall also continue the excellent liaison with the local officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, for the joint investigation and assessment of applications for grant-aided farm water supply schemes. I have been most grateful for the long-standing co-operation of the Ministry's Regional Advisory Bacteriologist and the other staff of the Regional Headquarters in Newcastle upon Tyne. It enables us to co-ordinate the safeguards to the public health as well as the agricultural interests.

General Distribution.

The Minister of Health requires me to state the number of houses and population in each of your 52 parishes with water laid on and with water available from standpipes.

Although 89% of our North Westmorland houses have a water supply piped into the house, we need to ask what the families are able to do with the water inside their own houses.

The 1961 Census disclosed some facts about the plight of our housewives, 23% of all our houses still had no hot-water tap, 33% of all our houses had no fixed bath: I think that there is a lot of work to be done in North Westmorland to catch up with these decencies and comforts: I believe that they play a part in raising the standard of public health.

PUBLIC WATER DISTRIBUTION, 31.12.66

Parish	No. of Houses in Parish	No. of Houses with water laid on	No. of Houses supplied from Stand Taps	No. of Houses otherwise supplied
Asby	105	99	—	6
Askham	144	144	—	—
Bampton	126	103	—	23
Barton	106	89	—	17
Bolton	95	93	1	1
Brough	233	220	2	11
Brough Sowerby	31	27	—	4
Brougham	87	78	1	8
Cliburn	60	60	—	—
Clifton	110	110	—	—
Colby	28	28	—	—
Crackenthorpe	31	30	—	1
Crosby Garrett	49	49	—	—
Crosby Ravensworth	169	158	—	11
Dufton	83	83	—	—
Hartley	49	41	5	3
Hillbeck	6	6	—	—
Hoff	59	59	—	—
Kaber	35	31	—	4
Kings Meaburn	42	42	—	—
Kirkby Stephen	576	576	—	—
Kirkby Thore	169	168	—	1
Long Marton	217	213	—	4
Lowther	124	108	1	15
Mallerstang	51	10	—	41
Martindale	49	—	—	49
Milburn	57	51	—	6
Morland	96	93	1	2
Murton	105	99	2	4
Musgrave	53	50	—	3
Nateby	39	37	2	—
Newbiggin	37	36	—	1
Newby	49	49	—	—
Ormside	36	36	—	—
Orton	216	203	—	13
Ravenstonedale	218	88*	—	130
Shap	422	398	—	25
Shap Rural	57	42	—	15
Sleagill	27	27	—	—
Sockbridge & Tirril	92	92	—	—
Soulby	59	58	—	1
Stainmore	104	2*	—	102
Great Strickland	67	61	—	5
Little Strickland	22	22	—	—
Tebay	277	247	—	30
Temple Sowerby	118	118	—	—
Thrimby	15	13	—	2
Waitby	19	18	—	1
Warcop	157	153	—	4
Wharton	10	10	—	—
Winton	70	67	2	1
Yanwath & Eamont Bridge	78	78	—	—
TOTALS ..	5334	4773	17	544

* These do not include the houses supplied from the Ravenstonedale and Stainmore Private Supplies.

Note. The majority of Houses in column 5 are provided with piped supplies from private sources.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The safe disposal of human sewage and other foul drainage has been recognized for thousands of years as one of the most important ways of protecting the public health. It is still particularly true today in our rural areas, with typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, salmonella and dysentery infections, and many primitive insanitary practices never far from the local scene.

North Westmorland Rural District is served by a series of separate public sewer systems and disposal works which deal with the foul drainage from the villages and more populated parts of other parishes. The remainder of the District has to rely upon individual septic tanks, cesspools, or drainage into watercourses, and some of the more remote houses still retain privies, pails, earth-closets and primitive ways.

Since the end of the war in 1945 your Council have pursued a progressive policy for extending the public sewerage systems to cope with the expanding development round many of our villages, and to improve or replace the existing sewage disposal works which were overloaded or worn out. Somewhat slower has been the bringing of organized public sewerage systems to villages and hamlets where more primitive conditions were becoming dangerous.

Even so, there will probably always be some settlements which cannot easily be linked up to the sewers of a large place, and which do not justify a full-scale system of their own. Many of these can be safely served by group septic tanks where the soil is suitable for absorption of the effluent. Isolated houses must perforce depend on some such individual method of dealing with their foul drainage.

I am indebted to the Engineers for most of the facts set out in the sections of my report which deal with sewage and public cleansing. I also record my appreciation of all their help and co-operation throughout the year on these vital services for safeguarding the public health.

Sewage Disposal Works.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 15.

During the post-war period, new sewage disposal works have been built at Brough, Tebay, Shap, Sockbridge, Askham, Temple Sowerby, and Bolton. These have produced a great improvement in the sewered areas around them.

Other improvements have been made to various works, notably at Kirkby Stephen, with the joining up of Hartley village to that system. But some of the older works need replacement, particularly at Pooley Bridge, Clifton, Eamont Bridge, Kirkby Thore, Newbiggin-on-Lune, and Morland.

There are also many other villages which really require the comprehensive installation of new sewers and modern disposal works: they are beyond mere improvement of their existing arrangements. Many of these other villages have ancient culverts or some primitive layout of combined surface water drains and piped sewers, but the arrangements are now hopelessly out-of-date and usually rather insanitary.

Future Sewerage Policy.

A formidable task faces North Westmorland. I reckon it will take a long time, maybe fifteen years or more, before all our sizeable villages can be equipped with new sewers and modern disposal works. Sewerage schemes take a lot longer to prepare and install than water schemes: there are no short cuts towards rapid results. Only long-term planning and careful foresight can help us on towards the village improvements which we should all like to see.

Indeed your Council have worked along these lines for the past twenty years. The policy has produced the very creditable results in our townships and major villages. Your Consulting Engineers have already prepared outline plans for about a dozen future schemes. Of course, our progress has had its ups and downs, with periodical national economy restriction, local limitations with building labour, land acquisition, practical snags, and the weather. But our long-term planning has provided some elasticity, and the general policy has been seen to pay off in the long run.

Although your Council would wish to plan their future programme as far ahead as possible for all their sewerage schemes and replacements, they are no longer the sole arbiters of deciding the relative priorities between the various projects, nor in full control of when they should be carried out. The Rivers Board now have a significant say in these matters.

Under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1961, your Council have to seek the consent of the Rivers Board to continue existing discharges of effluent from the public sewage works. Conditions for the quality of these effluents will be imposed, probably according to the Royal Commission standards, and time-limits will be stipulated for achieving them.

It is quite obvious that some of our public sewage disposal works will require structural modifications or replacement to produce effluents of the required standard. It is equally certain that such demands will be reflected in the time-limits to be imposed by the Rivers Board. Therefore the list of relative priorities would seem to be best worked out in the closest collaboration with the Rivers Board.

It would be unreasonable to accept the point of view that all priorities should be dictated by the Rivers Board, and that the quality of existing effluents should be the sole criterion for shaping our future programme of improvements and extensions to the sewerage systems of our District. There are other public health factors to be taken into consideration, including the provision of sewerage to areas which have not yet been served.

My advice to all parties is that these matters should be periodically discussed with the Rivers Board, to take into account all the changing scenes and developments throughout our Rural District. In this way we may be able to formulate our future programmes to please as many people as possible.

But of course nobody would expect your Council to stand still in the meantime. Your own impetus is carrying you forward towards getting on with the next village on your own devised priority list. The following more detailed notes show where we had got to at the end of the year.

Clifton.

Following further discussions with the Ministry of Transport regarding the sewer crossing under the proposed motorway, plans and proposals for sewers and sewage disposal works were presented to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. After requesting further particulars of the possibilities of dealing with Clifton as part of a regional sewerage scheme, the Minister gave approval to the local scheme, subject to minor technical amendments.

Ravenstonedale and Newbiggin-on-Lune.

Work in connection with the construction of sewers and sewage disposal works has been in progress throughout the greater part of the year. The scheme involved the pumping of sewage from Newbiggin-on-Lune to the disposal works to be situated at Ravenstonedale, and includes the laying of new sewers at both villages. The trench progress was slowed down.

Morland.

The scheme for new sewers and sewage disposal works for this village, with provision for the future connection to the sewerage system of the village of Newby, was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Nateby.

The laying of sewers in the village of Nateby to join it to the Kirkby Stephen sewerage system was completed in September 1966.

Kirkby Thore.

There has been much delay in the preparation of this scheme, due mainly to the difficulties in agreeing on a site for the pumping station. It is essential that this scheme be proceeded with without delay, as the existing sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements are quite inadequate, and will be worse after the additional 86 houses now in course of erection are occupied.

Tebay.

A contract was entered into for the construction of sewage disposal works on a new site at Lunes Bridge to replace the existing works which are to be demolished to make way for the M6 Motorway. The work was proceeding satisfactorily at the end of the year. The type and capacity of the sewage disposal works for the proposed service area on the new motorway near Tebay is still under consideration. A site for the works has been selected, but no detailed plans have yet been prepared.

Shap.

Due to the urgency of the sewage schemes for Tebay, Clifton and Kirkby Thore, the Consulting Engineers have had to concentrate on the preparation of the particulars for these schemes, and no further progress has been made with the Shap sewage works extension scheme.

Pooley Bridge.

For the same reasons, no further progress has been made with this scheme.

In 1964 the Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a sewerage scheme to include disposal works for this village. The existing disposal tanks is a primitive, inefficient relic, and there is a trail of pollution out into the shallows of the River Eamont. Not only has this village grown recently with residential development, but all through the summer it is full with thousands of tourists, visitors, motorists, caravans and the people for the Ullswater steamers. Such a popular holiday spot now merits a proper sewage disposal system, if we are to risk the spread of disease and ruin our reputation. I place Pooley Bridge high up on the priority list.

Eamont Bridge.

The views of the Penrith Urban Council were obtained about the possibility of discharging sewage from Eamont Bridge into the Penrith sewage system. Penrith Council stated that they had no objection in principle to this proposal. In 1964 your Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a sewerage scheme for this neighbourhood, to be installed at some future time.

Other Needs.

Your Council have formulated a tentative list of other villages where they would like to improve the sewerage in due course. These include Great Asby, Soulby, Crosby Ravensworth, Maulds Meaburn, Great Strickland, Little Strickland, Milburn, Warcop, Dufton, Long Marton, Kings Meaburn, Cliburn, Hilton, Murton, Winton, Hackthorpe, and Lowther. Such were their hopes expressed for the County Development Plan up to 1981. How far we shall get with the programme is anyone's guess.

Farm Drainage.

Your Council have been considering their policy and scale of charges for the acceptance of farm drainage effluents into the public sewerage systems. Such foul drainage is much stronger than ordinary domestic sewage, and it can cause great difficulties at our sewage disposal works.

Although there may be some heartburning over the scale of charges, it is possible that some farms will be asked to take their existing drainage out of our sewers, or in other cases they may be refused consent to make any new connections.

The Ministry of Agriculture seems to foster the principle that all organic farm wastes should be returned to the land as surface dressing fertilizers, and the Rivers Board are equally anxious to keep the pungent stuff out of the watercourses. We have no desire just to transport the farm effluents from one place to another and mess up our sewage disposal works in the process. So the discussions go on.

Cesspool Emptying.

The policy for running this service has always been rather pragmatic. Our attitude seems to have been that if private enterprise care to take on the job we simply say good luck to them. But if no one else can be found to empty private sewage tanks we tell the householders that we will try to fit the job in when we can and charge them what it costs us.

Your Council have always done their best to oblige these private sewage tank owners, but in a District like North Westmorland I think it ought to be more of a responsibility for private enterprise to develop. If private contractors can build up a worthwhile service it might be possible for them to empty some of our own Council tanks more easily than we could do it ourselves.

Public Conveniences.

Your Council provided public conveniences at Kirkby Stephen, Brough, Tebay, Shap, and Pooley Bridge.

The accommodation is generally sufficient for local requirements but it is inadequate to deal with the seasonal motor-coach traffic. These coaches present a special difficulty in Kirkby Stephen which is used as a halting-point for a very large number of Tyneside-Blackpool vehicles, and the shortage is accentuated by their arrival within a short period of time. Fouling of streets, doorways and yards results. Your Council ought to provide some bigger and better conveniences in Kirkby Stephen.

Lavatories for Lay-bys.

I have become increasingly disquieted by the excremental pollution of the lands adjacent to most of the vehicle lay-bys on our main highway routes throughout Westmorland. In some places it is seriously jeopardizing the public health for the residents of the vicinity as well as for the travellers themselves.

The adequate signposting of existing public conveniences in our villages, and somewhere to park while visiting them, may need to be supplemented by advance notices in the intervening highway lay-bys to tell people where to find the next set. Some of our more popular lay-bys may soon justify having public conveniences of their own, perhaps of the simple chemical type, if their proper hygienic maintenance could be arranged.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection.

Collections are carried out in all parishes, but in the less populous areas they are limited to once per month. In Kirkby Stephen, Shap, Brough and Tebay, collections are made weekly and in other parts of the District fortnightly.

The nature of the house refuse now collected continues to increase in bulk by reason of large amount of food, etc., which is now sold in cans, cartons, and packets. There is a reduction in the volume of ashes and similar small matter and this causes difficulty at the tips, due to the absence of adequate covering material in the refuse and on account of the large amount of paper and cardboard which is liable to get blown about and cause unsightly conditions about the tips.

Refuse Disposal.

Controlled tipping is the aim of the Council, but it is difficult to obtain sufficient covering material and labour to keep the tips in proper condition.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping at the following points:—

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Stamp Hill, Kirkby Thore. | 5. Great Strickland. |
| 2. Waitby. | 6. Clifton Dykes. |
| 3. Langton Road, Warcop. | 7. Kings Meaburn. |
| 4. Orton Fell. | 8. Fell East of Tebay. |

Street Cleansing.

Street cleansing is carried out by the Westmorland County Council in the larger villages, and these are usually maintained in good order.

Extra street cleansing has been carried out at Kirkby Stephen on Sundays during the summer due to the large amount of litter resulting from the coach traffic.

Pest Control.

The Council's Clerk of Works, Mr. T. Taylor, continues to function as Pests Officer under the control of the Health Inspectors. The treatment of the refuse tips and sewage works for the destruction of rats is carried out on one or two occasions during the year. The treatment of private houses and other properties is carried out by the Council when requested by the persons responsible, and the costs in these cases are recovered. The Council's refuse tips are regularly treated.

I look upon the systematic destruction of rats and mice as a very helpful contribution towards safeguarding the public from all sorts of unpleasant diseases carried by those animals.

FOOD HYGIENE.

General Powers.

Your Council bear most of the statutory responsibility for safeguarding the public from foodborne diseases. The main aim is directed towards securing proper and hygienic conditions for the manufacture, preparation and sale of food. The secondary aim is to trace and localise any outbreaks of disease which may occur in spite of preventive measures.

Precautions against Contamination.

Food hygiene is steadily improving throughout your area. Public opinion is well ahead of the law and most traders are aware of the fact. The good food trader does not need official instruction in basic cleanliness or the enforcement of legal minimum standards. He may welcome advice on technical problems, but his aim is how high he can get, not how low he can get away with.

The responsibility for safe food does not rest entirely with the trader as the housewife must play her part as well. Quite a lot of strange things happen to food between the shop counter and the dinner plate, and the educational campaign has had to be carried into the home. Foodborne diseases, mild dysenteries and attacks of diarrhoea and vomiting are not infrequent in our homes and among our visitors. I am confident that higher standards will reduce these preventable diseases.

Ice-Cream.

The following premises were registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Manufacture by hot mix, cold mix, storage and sale	...	0
Manufacture by cold mix, storage and sale	... ..	1
Storage and sale only	... ..	83

Food Trade Categories.

The Minister requires me to furnish certain details about the categories of food trade carried on during the year. They are set out in the adjacent table.

Regulation 16 relates to the requirement for providing wash-hand basins, and Regulation 19 relates to the requirements for providing facilities for washing food and equipment used in food businesses.

Category of Premises	Number	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Number to which Reg. 19 Applies	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Hotels	58	58	58	58
Cafes and Snack bars	18	17	18	18
Grocers, Fruiterers, Confectioners and General	82	79	56	48
Butchers Shops	11	11	11	11
Total	169	165	143	135

Prepared Meats.

The number of premises on the Register for the preparation of sausages, potted meat, preserved meat, pressed meat, and pickled foods, was 27. Informal notices have been issued regarding certain alterations and improvements.

Liquid Eggs.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurization) Regulations, 1966.

There are no egg pasteurization plants in the District.

Poultry Processing.

There are two premises in the District where dressing and preparation of poultry carcasses for sale are carried out. These are at Brough and Morland.

The dressing of poultry carcasses is carried out intermittently: in these circumstances it is possible to inspect only a small percentage of the poultry dealt with.

The operators have been referred to the Code of Practice on Poultry Dressing and Packing, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Food Hygiene Code of Practice, No. 5) and to the conditions referred to in the Appendix to Circular 22-61, recommending that any suspect birds be set aside and that the Public Health Inspector be notified immediately.

Milk Registrations.

At the year end there were 21 registered distributors, and four registered dairies which were not dairy farms. No particular difficulties were met, and milk-round vehicles were generally maintained in good condition.

Pathogenic Organisms in Milk.

Biological and other tests on 65 samples taken by various Authorities, from sources in our area, continued to be passed to me. I have had no cause during the current year to serve any Notices under the Milk and Dairies Regulations to restrict the sale of milk or the activities of milk-handlers.

Special attention was directed towards the organisms of brucella abortus in the above samples. None were found.

Slaughterhouses.

Your Council adopted a policy of licensing small private slaughterhouses. From the point of view of efficient control and inspection of meat in such a scattered area, this causes many difficulties.

During the year slaughterhouse licences had been operative in respect of the following premises:—

- Fletcher Hill, Kirkby Stephen.
- Bridge End, Church Brough.
- Musgrave Lane, Soulby.
- Oak House, Ravenstonedale.
- Langton Field, Appleby.
- Front Street, Orton.

The last-mentioned premises are licensed only for the slaughter of sheep and pigs.

The changing pattern of the meat trade, and the increasingly stringent legal requirements, make it doubtful how much longer it will be economic to maintain such small private slaughterhouses.

Condemnation of Other Food.

The following other foodstuffs were condemned:—

Frozen fish packets	...	3 lbs.
Canned ham	...	10 lbs.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

The Minister of Health requires me to describe the current methods for the disposal of condemned food. In this District it is by burial.

Condemnation of Meat at the Abattoir

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The following is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned in whole or in part:—

	Cattle including Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	514	2	2276	4	557
Number inspected ..	514	2	2276	4	557
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	—	4	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	198	2	263	1	28
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	38.9	100%	11.3	25	5.02
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	8
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	1.43
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Note: One case of Anthrax was notified during the year and the carcase cremation was approved.

GENERAL INSPECTIONS.

Your Council employs one Chief Public Health Inspector and three Additional Public Health Inspectors. The salary is apportioned between the health inspection duties and other duties in a proportion approved by the Minister of Health.

The Chief Inspector is located at the Council Offices in Kirkby Stephen and has the assistance of one female clerk and one male clerk, and, in addition to being responsible for the whole Rural District, he has personal charge of the Eastern Division which represents most of the portion of your District which was East Westmorland before the boundary alterations in 1935. One additional inspector is also based there. This is the absolute minimum for carrying out your Council's duties.

The two other additional inspectors are based in an office at Shap, where they have the assistance of a female clerk. One inspector covers the central areas of your District, and the other looks after the more westerly parishes: both are responsible to the Chief Public Health Inspector at Kirkby Stephen.

I recommend once again the centralization of administration within your area. The divided control is a bad relic of the fusion of the Districts which took place in 1935, and if the unification is to be made an effective unit of Local Government it must be a union in spirit and body as well as in name. Now that the Clerk's Department have moved to Appleby, there is a threefold division of your Council's administration.

I record high tribute and appreciation of the work of the public health inspectors throughout the year.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the District.

Factories.

There are 61 factories in your District, one is non-mechanical and 60 are provided with power.

No out-workers were notified to your Council by factory owners. There are no recognized bakehouses in the District.

The register of factories has recently been completely revised and cross-checking carried out with H.M. Inspector's records.

Factory Inspections.

Premises.	Number of Premises.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities ..	1	3	—	—
Factories not included in (1), in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	60	56	—	—
Other premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	61	59	—	—

No defects were found.

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which Defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	I	I	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	I	I	—	—	—

H.M. Inspector of Factories has been sent details of your Rural District's administration of the relevant sections of the Factory Act, 1961.

No references were made to H.M. Inspector and none were received from her. No prosecutions were required.

Offices and Shops.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

This legislation came into force during 1964. It makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of people employed in these premises.

Type of Premises	Registered at year end	Inspected during year	Persons Employed
Offices	10	9	40
Retail Shops	46	29	119
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses ..	2	2	3
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	17	17	86
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—
Totals	75	59	248

No written notices, and 15 verbal notices were served for contraventions discovered.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no registered common lodging houses in the area.

Rent Acts.

No certificates were issued during the year and no contraventions regarding rent book entries were found.

Clean Air.

No action was required.

Compulsory Removals.

National Assistance Acts, 1948-1951.

Fortunately it was not necessary to take any Court action for the compulsory removal of uncared-for people. Several individuals were visited for consideration during the year. Such cases are extremely distressing to deal with and the course of compulsory removal is reserved to meet the emergencies of a last resort when all other methods of help have failed. Sometimes it is very hard to decide what is really in the best interests of the patient.

Public Mortuary.

Your Council provide and operate a modern public mortuary at Shap. It is reasonably satisfactory for that limited purpose, and it is not intended for post-mortem examinations.

Your Council also share, with Appleby Borough Council and Westmorland County Council, some premises in Appleby which have long been used as a public mortuary. Your two County District Councils are responsible for operating and maintaining it: the Westmorland County Council merely retain a share in the bricks and mortar.

I believe that public mortuaries should be conducted with a very high standard of cleanliness, decency and reverence, and shall be satisfied with nothing less.

Exhumations.

During August 1966 I personally supervised the exhumation of certain human remains from a portion of the churchyard of St. Cuthbert's Church at Clifton, in consequence of highway alterations being carried out for the Ministry of Transport. The exhumations were done in accordance with a Diocesan Faculty, with no danger to the public health. The remains were re-interred in another part of the same churchyard.

Laboratory Service.

Satisfactory laboratory facilities were available at Carlisle for all public health purposes, free of charge to the Local Authority and the patient. This encourages the use of modern diagnostic methods by general practitioners and your Health Department.

APPENDIX A. **Laboratory Examination of Public Water Supplies.**

Nature of Test	Standards Max.	Barton	Bleawater Raw	Bleawater Treated	Brough	Coupland Beck
Pr. Coli count 37° ..	3-10	35	0	0	18	0
Faecal Coli/strep ..	0	+			+	
Date sampled last ..		12.10.66	12.10.66	12.10.66	19.10.66	7.7.64
Character	—	Clear	Clear	Clear	Hazy	Clear
Reaction	—	6.5	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.5
Ammonical Nitrogen ..	.041	.02	.02	Less than .02	Less than .02	.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	.066	.02	.04	.02	.04	.02
Total Solids	1000	70	25	35	123	144
Hardness {	Total ..	43	16	16	66	79
	Carbonate ..	16	14	—	7	31
	Non-Carb... ..	27	2	16	59	48
Chlorides... ..	30	5	6	5	7.5	7.5
Nitrates	1	—	.3	—	—	—
Nitrites	0	—	—	—	—	—
O ₂ Absorbed	1	.42	.2	.3	4.3	.08
Heavy Metals	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rainfall 24 hours ..	—	Moderate	Nil	Slight	Heavy	Heavy
Date Sampled	—	7.5.63	20.9.66	23.6.64	11.4.62	23.5.62
Laboratory	—	Carlisle	Newcastle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle

Nature of Test	Dufton	Hilton	Kaber	Kirkby Stephen	Kirkby Thore Bore Hole	Kirkby Thore ex. Marble Scaur
Pr. Coli count 37° ..	0	5	35	20	0	0
Faecal Coli/strep ..		+	+	+		
Date sampled last ..	16.5.66	16.5.66	19.10.66	19.10.66	13.6.66	13.6.66
Character	Clear	Clear	Clear	Yellow Tinged	Clear	Clear
Reaction	7.5	7.0	7.5	7.0	7.1	7.0
Ammonical Nitrogen ..	.05	Less than .02	.03	Less than .02	Trace	Less than .03
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	.02	Less than .02	.03	Less than .03	.03	Less than .03
Total Solids	98	127	213	126	290	285
Hardness {	Total ..	98	102	71	250	185
	Carbonate... ..	46	54	18	170	87
	Non-Carb... ..	52	48	53	80	98
Chlorides... ..	7	5	8.4	7.5	15	9
Nitrates	—	—	—	—	3.2	—
Nitrites	—	—	—	—	—	—
O ₂ Absorbed .. ..	.16	.08	.45	3.0	.05	.04
Heavy Metals	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rainfall 24 hours ..	Heavy	Nil	Medium	Slight	Nil	Heavy
Date Sampled	17.5.62	2.5.62	31.1.62	7.2.62	23.9.66	24.1.62
Laboratory	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Newcastle	Carlisle

Chemical analyses results are expressed in parts per million.

APPENDIX A. **Laboratory Examination of Public Water Supplies—contd.**

Nature of Test	Long marton	Maller- stang	Murton	Tebay	Temple Sowerby	Warcop
Pr. Coli count 37° ..	0	180	1	11	0	2
Faecal Coli/strep ..		+	+	+		
Date sampled last ..	16.5.66	8.6.66	17.10.65	17.5.66	19.10.66	19.10.66
Character	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Reaction	7.0	7.5	6.0	7.5	6.5	7.0
Ammonical Nitrogen ..	.02	Less than .03	Less than .02	.02	Less than .03	Less than .02
Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	.02	Less than .03	Less than .02	.02	Less than .03	Less than .02
Total Solids	60	94	47	46	176	168
Hardness {	Total ..	31	48	15	30	91
	Carbonate..	4	2	—	7	51
	Non-Carb...	27	46	—	30	84
Chlorides	7	6.5	5	7	12.5	9.5
Nitrates	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nitrites	—	—	—	—	—	—
O ₂ Absorbed .. ..	.12	1.8	.04	.2	.08	.04
Heavy Metals	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rainfall 24 hours ..	Heavy	Nil	Nil	Nil	Heavy	Heavy
Date Sampled	17.5.62	16.2.62	2.5.62	21.2.62	24.1.62	11.4.62
Laboratory	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle

Chemical analyses results are expressed in parts per million.

